

TITLE**METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR MAKING
BRISTLE SUBASSEMBLIES**

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An article of manufacture has elongated members connected to a base string. The articles can be used as bristle subassembly, carpet subassembly, and a variety of other products. Articles are made by wrapping a strand around a mandrel to form a plurality of wraps, and then base strings are bonded to the wraps. After cutting the wraps along one side of the base strings, a plurality of subassemblies are formed. These are fed to a second mandrel, which carries wraps formed by a second strand. The base strings of the subassemblies are then bonded to the wraps of the second mandrel. After cutting along the base strings, a plurality of modified subassemblies are formed with two rows of elongated members formed from the two sets of wraps. The apparatus for forming the subassemblies can include a conditioning device to further enhance the connection of the elongated members to the base strings, and also to smooth the ends of the elongated members where they were cut.